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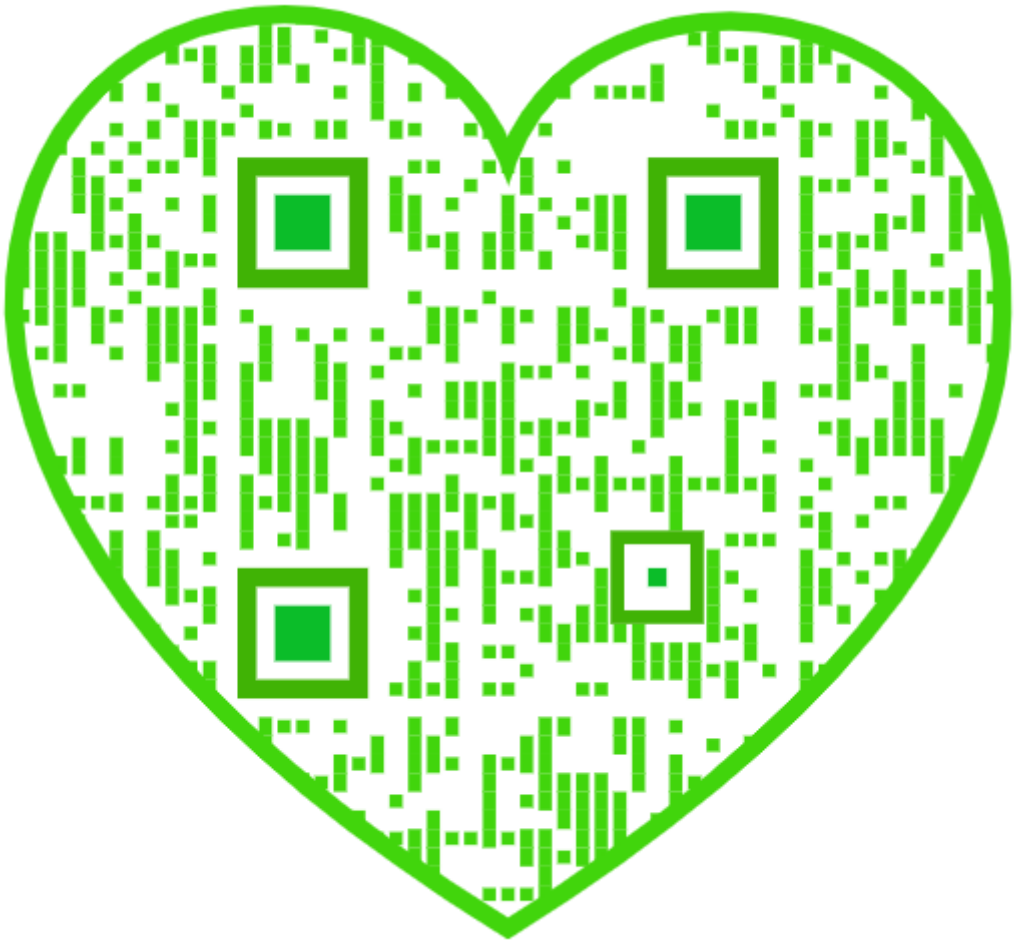
A Plan *for* Teaching Beginners *to* Read



A PLAN FOR

Teaching Beginners to Read

LB1525
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No. 1.

Realizing from my experience in teaching primary reading that preliminary work is necessary before putting a book into the hands of the child, I have tried this plan for beginners and have found it very successful.

It may be used for any primer but it is necessary to decide on one, in order that the vocabulary may correspond.

Print is used entirely. The capital letters measure 2½ inches and the small ones 1¾ inches. Being large, the print is readily seen by the class.

I have divided my plan into three parts.

I. (1) The vocabulary.

(2) Single sentences.

II. Two sentences related in thought.

III. The final charts.

PART I.

I.

1. The vocabulary.

Each word of the vocabulary is printed on a sheet of stiff paper. With these words I form sentences before asking the child to read.

All new sentences are introduced in this way. The advantage is that a great variety of sentences is hereby made possible.

2. Single sentences.

These sentences are printed on long strips of paper.

I begin by asking the children, what do you do with your eyes? After obtaining the answer, "I see."; I tell them I am going to show them how that looks on paper or in a book, and place the sheets with the printed words **I** and **see** on the ledge of the blackboard in such a way as to form the sentence:

I see.

I have them read this for me.

Then I show them pictures of a cat, dog, boy, girl, etc. These pictures I have on a roller shade with the word which the picture represents printed under the picture. I take from the vocabulary the words corresponding to the several words on the shade and give **cat** to one child, **dog** to another, **boy** to a third, and tell them to match their words with the words on the shade. Then I ask the child with the word cat, what he sees on the shade. When he tells me "I see a cat.", I tell him that I will show him how that looks in a book. I place **a cat.** after **I see** and ask him to read the sentence:

I see a cat.

Next I call on the child who has the printed sheet with **dog.** When he tells me "I see a dog.", I have him place the word **dog** over the word **cat** and tell him to read his sentence:

I see a **dog.**

In like manner I develop boy, girl, pig, hen, man, woman, seed, fox, etc.

I use the picture of a **red** hen and after asking the color of the hen I form the sentence:

I see a red hen.

For **big** and **little** I have pictures of two boys which I have a child compare. Then I form the sentences:

I see a big boy.

I see a little boy.

I introduce the article **the** by telling the children that we may use it instead of **a.**

By using the picture of an old woman the word **old** is easily developed and I tell them that the word **an** is sometimes used with **old.**

The children decide, since bread is made from wheat, that they would like to have our seed a wheat seed, so I form the sentence:

I see a wheat seed.

We and **You** are used in place of **I.**

Thus after a sufficient number of nouns have been developed one has the complete lesson by changing (a) the subject; (b) the noun; (c) the article; or, (d) by using one of the developed adjectives.

I see a cat.

(a and b) You see a dog.

We see a hen., etc.

(c) I see the cat.

You see the dog.

We see the hen., etc.

(d) I see a little cat.

You see the big dog.

We see the red hen.

I see a wheat seed.

We see an old woman., etc.

The children may place the words in sentences as well as the teacher thus varying the work and promoting interest.

After I have developed the different nouns I use the past form of the verb, as:

I saw a cat.

We saw the dog.

You saw the hen., etc.

Then I have the pretend lesson:

I am a cat.

I am a dog., etc.

The verbs **have** and **found** are used with this set.

The following words are necessary for Set I:

I	cat	squirrel
You	dog	goat
We	pig	ox
	hen	water
am	seed	fire
have	man	stick
see	woman	
saw	boy	big
found	girl	little
	fox	old
a	children	red
the	rat	wheat
an	rabbit	some

SET I.

Single Sentences

I see a cat.

We see the little woman.

You see an old man.

You saw the goat.

We saw the girl.

I saw a boy.

I saw a fox.

You have an ox.

I have a red hen.

We have a seed.

We found the squirrel.

You found the rabbit.

I found a dog.

(Used also with Part II, Set IV (a).)

We see some children.

I have some water.

You saw the fire.

We found a big stick.

I am a little girl.

I am a big boy.

I saw an old man.

We see the little old woman.

You found a wheat seed.

SET II.

Necessary new words:

can	The	to
run	An	you
sing	not	me
fly	and	John
did	with	Mary

Words previously taught:

I	hen	
You	woman	see
We	cat	
	dog	
little	pig	
red	boy	
old	girl	
the (2)	man	

SET II.

Single Sentences

I can run.

You can not sing.

We can not fly.

You can sing and run.

I can not fly and sing.

You can run with me.

I can not fly to you.

The little red hen can fly to me.

The old woman can not see you.

An old man can not run with me.

We did not see you.

You did not see me.

I can see you.

You can not see me.

The dog and the cat can run.

We did not see the pig and the hen.

I did not see the boy and the girl.

You did not see John and Mary.

The old man can not see me.

SET III.

Necessary new words:

(a) Get
get
met
wanted
got

(b) ran
away
from
shall
will
after

(c) drink
burn
beat
bite
came
quench

(d) said
plant
cut
thresh
grind
make
eat
made
Who
bread
it

SET III.

Words previously taught:

We	The	dog	rabbit
You	the	man	squirrel
I	An	fox	fire
me	old	girl	seed
you	some	pig	
	an	cat	
did	little	rat	
not	big	woman	
can	wheat	hen	
run		boy	
		goat	
		stick	
		water	
		ox	
		children	

SET III.

Single Sentences

(a) We did not get the dog.
The man did not get the fox.
The girl did not get the pig.
The cat did not get the rat.
You got the cat.
An old woman got the hen.
The boy got the goat.
The man got the stick.
The old woman wanted some water.
An old man wanted an ox.
You wanted a little squirrel.
The girl wanted a rabbit.
The man wanted a fire.
The man met the little boy.
We met an old woman.
The old woman met a big girl.
The girl met some children.

(b) The hen ran away from the woman.
You ran away from me.
We ran away from you.
The man ran away from the fox.
I shall not run after the man.
The fox will run after the hen.
The girl can not run after the cat.
You did not run after the pig.
I will run away from you.
You shall not run away from me.
The dog can run away from the boy.
The pig did not run away from the man.

(c) The water will quench the fire.
We will drink the water.
The boy will beat the dog.
The ox came to some water.
We will cut the stick.
The dog will not bite me.
You made the fire.
The fire will burn the stick.

(d) We shall not plant the seed.
I did not cut the wheat.
We will grind it.
I made the bread.
We will eat it.
You shall thresh the wheat.
We will cut the bread.
The woman will make the bread.

To be used with Part II, Set IV (b):

The woman said, "I will make some bread."
The woman said, "Who will get the hen?"
The woman said, "Who met the old man?"
The woman said, "Get the hen, Mary."

The girl said, "I will cut the bread."
The girl said, "Who made the bread?"

The man said, "I can cut and thresh the wheat."
The man said, "Who got the pig?"
The man said, "Get the pig, John."

The boy said, "I can plant the seed."
The boy said, "I shall not grind the wheat."
The boy said, "I can get the cat."

PART II.

I.

1. Single sentences from Set I.

2. Previously taught and new words on single sheets to form second sentence.

II.

Two sentences related in thought printed on large sheets of paper.

I.

For example:

1. I saw a boy.

Place this sentence on the ledge of the blackboard and have a child read it.

2. Select from the vocabulary:

He

was

big

Place these words in a sentence beside the first sentence and have the children tell something about the boy:

He was big.

II.

I saw a boy.

He was big.

SET IV.

Necessary new words:

He	is	But
She	was	So
It	had	Then
she	has	then
he	There	Not
		And

Words previously taught:

I	cat	made
	man	cut
little	seed	did
old	woman	said
a	goat	shall
big	rat	not
The	boy	get
wheat	rabbit	will
red	pig	eat
an	hen	John
the	goat	got
	dog	Mary
it	ox	
	girl	
	children	

PART II. Set IV.

Two sentences related in thought:

(a) You see an old man.
He is little.

We see the little woman.
She is old.

I see a cat.
It is a big cat.

You see an old man.
The old man has a wheat seed.

We see the little woman.
The woman has a goat.

I see a cat.
The cat has a rat.

We saw the girl.
She was little.

I saw a boy.
He was a big boy.

We saw the girl.
She had a rabbit.

I saw a boy.
He had a pig.

I saw a fox.
He had a red hen.

You saw the goat.
It was a big goat.

We found the squirrel.
It was little.

You found the rabbit.
The rabbit was big.

I found a dog.
The dog was little.

You have an ox.
He is a red ox.

I have a red hen.
She is little.

We have a seed.
It is a wheat seed.

There was an old woman.
She had a hen.

There was an old man.
He had a goat.

(b) The woman said, "I will make some bread."
And she made it.

The girl said, "I will cut the bread."
So she cut it.

The boy said, "I can plant the seed."
And he did.

The man said, "I can cut and thresh the wheat."
Then he did it.

The boy said, "I shall not grind the wheat."
The man said, "I shall then."

The boy said, "I can get the cat."
But he did not get it.

The woman said, "Who will get the hen?"
The girl said, "Not I."

The man said, "Who got the pig?"
The boy said, "Not I."

The woman said, "Who met the old man?"
The boy said, "Not I."

The girl said, "Who made the bread?"
The woman said, "I did not."

The man said, "Get the pig, John."
So John got it.

The woman said, "Get the hen, Mary."
But Mary did not get it.

The man wanted a fire.
So he made it.

The woman will make the bread.
Then the children will eat it.

PART III.

The Final Charts

I see a girl.
She is Mary.
Mary is a big girl.
She has a little hen.
It is a red hen.
The hen will not run away from Mary.

We saw a boy.
He was John.
He had a big pig.
The pig ran away from John.
John wanted the pig.
So he ran after it.
And he got it.

I see a man.
The man is little and old.
He has a wheat seed.
He will plant the seed.
But he will not cut and thresh the wheat.

I see an old woman.
The old woman is little.
She can make some bread.
She will cut the bread.
Then she will eat it.

I saw an old woman.
She had some children.
The children wanted some bread.
So she made it.
Then the children had bread to eat.

The man has a dog and a cat.
The dog is big.
The cat is little.
The dog will bite the cat.
Then the man will beat the dog with a stick.

We see an old woman.
She is little.
She has a cat.
It is a little cat.
The cat will run away from the old woman.
Then the woman will run after the cat.
But she will not get it.

We met a little man.
The man was old.
He had a pig.
It was a big pig.
The pig ran away from the man.
Then the man ran after the pig.
But he did not get it.

We saw a fox and a rabbit.
The rabbit was little.
The fox was big.
The rabbit ran away.
The fox ran after the rabbit.
But the fox did not get the rabbit

I see a rat and a cat.
The cat is big.
The rat is little.
The cat will run after the rat.
The rat will run away from the cat.
The cat will not get the rat.

We met a boy.
The boy had a goat.
The goat was big.
The goat ran away from the boy.
Then the boy ran after the goat.
And he got it.

We saw a fox.
It was a big red fox.
The fox saw a hen.
The hen ran away from the fox.
The fox wanted the hen.
So he ran after it.
And he got it.

I had a squirrel.
It was a little squirrel.
The squirrel ran away from me.
I ran after it.
But I did not get it.

We had a hen.
She was little and red.
The hen ran away from me.
I wanted the hen.
So I ran after it.
But I did not get it.

There was an old woman.
The old woman wanted some bread.
She said, "I will make it."
So she made it.
Then she said, "Who will cut the bread?"
The girl said, "Not I."
The woman said, "Then you shall not eat it."

There was an old man.
The old man had some wheat.
He said, "Who will plant the wheat?"
The boy said, "I will."
So he did.
Then the boy said, "I will cut it.
And I will thresh and grind it."

There was an old woman.
The old woman said, "Who will get the cat?"
The girl said, "I will."
And she ran after it.
But she did not get it.

There was an old man.
The man said, "Who can get the dog?"
The boy said, "I can."
The man said, "Then get it."
And the boy got the dog.

We saw an ox.
The ox was big and red.
The ox ran away.
He came to some water.
He did not drink the water.

I see a fire.
It is a big fire.
The fire will burn the stick.
Get some water to quench the fire.
The water will quench the fire.

These charts may be used with word cards for seat-work.

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